FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Minutes
December 11, 2006


Watson (Dean of Faculties)

Bazzi, Thornton (Qatar Senators)

Absent: Bekso, Boyd, Cagin, Cepeda-Benito, Centinkaya, Cobb, Colisson, Curry, Estrada, Fink, Gawande, Geva, Harms, Harris, Hobson Kenimer, Kirkendall, Klein, La-Pastina, Linton, Louder, Luiselli, Mahapatra, Pearl, Petersen, Reddy, Shandley, Stabile, Straube, Toby, Toliyat, Vaid, Vedlitz, Warden, Webb-Johnson, Whiteacre

Call to Order  The meeting was called to order at 3:20 by Speaker Slack

Speaker Comments: The Speaker reported that he and Speaker-Elect Hill Price had met with minority student leaders (Amethyst Black, Kaku Barkoh and Alisha Adams) concerning developing a plan for assuring the Core requirement for International and Cultural Diversity is made as effective as possible in making the campus welcome to all. He has also met with the Mexican American Latino Faculty Association to encourage greater participation in the Senate.

Speaker Slack congratulated Dr. Martyn Gunn on being named to the position of Dean of Undergraduate Programs and Associate Provost.

The speaker announced the recent untimely death of a colleague in Civil Engineering, Dr. Timothy Kramer in a light plane crash.

Minutes of the November 13 Faculty Senate Meeting were approved as distributed and are available on the Senate website.

Consent Agenda

Graduate Council (Recommended Approval)

New Courses-Sep 7, 2006
AGRO 663 Applied Spatial Statistics
ELEN 640 Thin Film Science and Technology

Motion Passed F.S. 24.50
Attachment A

Motion Passed F.S. 24.51
Attachment B
FRSC 663  Applied Spatial Statistics
MKTG 670  Marketing Leadership
MKTG 687  Seminar in Marketing Models
PETE 636  Horizontal, Multilateral Intelligent Wells

New Courses-Oct 5, 2006  Attachment C
HLTH 659  Writing for Health Educators  Motion Passed F.S. 24.52

University Curriculum Committee  (Recommended Approval) Attachment D
New Courses-Oct 13, 2006  Motion Passed F.S. 24.53
ACCT 410  Fraud Examination
AERO 445  Vehicle Management Systems
AGCJ 281  Journalism Concepts for Agriculture
ANSC 487  Sensory Evaluation of Foods
BIIOL 401  Critical Writing in Biology
ENGR 410  Global Engineering
GEOG 420  Geography of Terrorism
IBUS 460  Academy for Future International Leaders
MATH 439  Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces
MKTG 438  Strategic Internet Marketing
RLEM 420  Ecological Restoration of Wetland and Riparian Systems

New Courses-Nov 10, 2006  Attachment E  (p. 1-248)
AERO 424  Spacecraft Attitude Dynamics and Control  Motion Passed F.S. 24.54
AERO 426  Space System Design
AGSM 462  Advanced GIS Analysis for Natural Resource Management
ARAB 101  Beginning Arabic I
ARAB 102  Beginning Arabic II
ARAB 201  Intermediate Arabic I
ARAB 202  Intermediate Arabic II
CPSC 121  Introduction to Program Design and Concepts
CPSC 181  Introduction to Computing
CPSC 312  Computer Organization
CPSC 313  Introduction to Computer systems
CPSC 314  Programming Languages
CPSC 315  Programming Studio
CPSC 482  Senior Capstone Design
CVEN 343  Portland Cement Concrete Materials for Civil Engineers
EURO 405  European Cinema
EURO 430  Seminar in German Literature and Culture
EURO 431  German Author and Genre Studies
EURO 432  Music in German Culture
EURO 434  Martin Luther and the Reformation in Germany
EURO 435  German Film
EURO 436  German Fairy Tales
EURO 441  The Russian Novel I: Tolstoy and Dostoevsky
EURO 442 The Russian Novel II: The Twentieth Century
EURO 446 Russian Artistic Culture I: Beginnings to 1900
EURO 447 Russian Artistic Culture II: 1890 to Present
FILM 405 European Cinema
FILM 435 German Film
GEOG 102 Introduction to Spatial Sciences
GERM 430 Seminar in German Literature and Culture
GERM 431 German Author and Genre Studies
JAPN 401 Advanced Japanese I
JAPN 402 Advanced Japanese II
POLS 362 Latin American Political Thought
RUSS 410 Seminar in Russian Studies
RUSS 441 The Russian Novel I: Tolstoy and Dostoevsky
RUSS 442 The Russian Novel II: The Twentieth Century
RUSS 446 Russian Artistic Culture I: Beginnings to 1900
RUSS 447 Russian Artistic Culture II: 1890 to Present
SOMS 381 Workshop in Leadership Education II
SOMS 482 Seminar in Executive Leadership II
SOMS 485 Directed Studies
SPSC 102 Introduction to Spatial Sciences
SPSC 461 Geographic Information Systems for Resource Managers
SPSC 462 Advanced GIS Analysis for Natural Resource Management
VIBS 926 Introduction to Public Health Concepts
VMID 925 Diagnostic Imaging Interpretation I
VMID 926 Diagnostic Imaging Interpretation II
VTPB 913 Infectious Diseases
VTPP 401 History of Human and Veterinary Medicine in Europe
WFSC 419 Wildlife Restoration

Withdrawal of Courses-Nov 10, 2006
(p. 249-253)

CPSC 210 Data Structures
GERM 415 Franz Kafka
GERM 418 Post-War Germany. Cold war to the Fall of the Berlin Wall and After.
RUSS 341 Russia's Artistic Heritage
RUSS 401 The Russian Novel.

Change in Courses-Nov 10, 2006
(p. 254-351)

ANSC 316 Aptitude and performance Appraisal of Horses
CHEM 101 Fundamentals of Chemistry I
CHEM 102 Fundamental of Chemistry II
CHEM 111 Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory I
CHEM 112 Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory II
CHEN 425 Chemical Engineering Plant Economics
CHEN 461 Process Control and Instrumental
CVEN 342 Materials of Construction
CVEN 365 Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering
CVEN 422 Civil Engineering Systems II
CVEN 455 Urban Stormwater Management
CVEN 458  Hydraulic Engineering

Dwight Look College of Engineering
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering: Change in course prefix for all ELEN courses to ECEN

GERM 310  Conversation and Composition I
GRM 311  Conversation and Composition II
GERM 350  German Film
GERM 404  Martin Luther and the Formation in Germany
GERM 405  Music in German Culture
GERM 416  German Fairy Tales
HLTH 421  Elementary School Health
MEEN 227  Principles of Thermodynamics
MEEN 260  Mechanical Measurements
MEEN 402  Intermediate Design
MEEN 404  Engineering Laboratory
MODL 337  Russian Drama
NUEN 406  Nuclear Engineering Systems and Design
NUEN 430  Computer Applications in Nuclear Engineering
RELS 404  Martin Luther and the Reformation in Germany
RUSS 337  Russian Drama
VMID 924  Radiology
VTPB 910  Microbiology I
VTPB 911  Microbiology II
VTPP 926  Pharmacology/Toxicology III
WFSC 420  Ecology for Teachers

Consent Agenda: Sen. Hobbs (COS) requested that CPSC 221, 222, and 411 be removed from the consent agenda. The remaining items were approved without opposition.

Senator Stewart called for a quorum. The count was 58 present. A quorum is 47. Speaker Slack declared a quorum present.

Committee Reports (all moved for approval by the Secretary of the Senate)

Executive Committee

W Courses – New Course Request, Nov 16, 2006  Attachment F  Motion Passed F.S. 24.55
BESC 489  Special Topics in Water and Bioenvironmental Sciences
MICR 455  Immunology Lab
PHYS 491  Undergraduate Research Writing in Physics
POLS 423  U.S. Latin-American Relations
POLS 424  Comparative Democratic Institutions
SOCI 489  Sociology In and Out of New Orleans
FSTC 481  Food Science and Technology Seminar
RUSS 301  Advanced Grammar and Composition
RDNG 372  Reading and Writing Across the Middle Grades Curriculum
MARS 430  Geological Ocean
ATMO 456  Practical Weather Forecasting

University Curriculum Committee
Changes in Curriculum - November 10, 2006

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Attachment G Motion Passed F.S. 24.56
Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology
B.S. in Bioenvironmental Sciences

College of Educ and Human Development Attachment H Motion Passed F.S. 24.57
Department of Health and Kinesiology
B.S. in Health

College of Educ and Human Development Attachment I Motion Passed F.S. 24.58
Department of Health and Kinesiology
B.S. in Health
Community Health Option
Allied Health Option

Dwight Look College of Engineering Attachment J Motion Passed F.S. 24.59
Zachary Department of Civil Engineering
B.S. in Civil Engineering

Dwight Look College of Engineering Attachment K Motion Passed F.S. 24.60
Department of Computer Science
B.S. in Computer Science

Dwight Look College of Engineering Attachment L Motion Passed F.S. 24.61
Department of Mechanical Engineering
B.S. in Mechanical Engineering

Dwight Look College of Engineering Attachment M Motion Passed F.S. 24.62
Department of Nuclear Engineering
B.S. in Nuclear Engineering

Dwight Look College of Engineering Attachment N Motion Passed F.S. 24.63
Department of Nuclear Engineering
B.S. in Radiological Health Engineering

College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences Attachment O
Veterinary Medicine – DVM Professional  

All items were approved unanimously with corrected information in the B. S. in Computer Science considered an editorial change.

Special Consideration - November 10, 2006

**College of Liberal Arts**  
Women’s Studies Program  
AWIL Scholars Program, a Certificate in Gender and Leadership

**College of Liberal Arts**  
Minor in Asian Studies

**College of Educ and Human Development**  
Department of Health and Kinesiology  
Outdoor Education Minor – withdrawal

**Dwight Look College of Engineering**  
International Certificate Program for Engineering Students

With regard to the College of Liberal Arts request for a minor in Asian Studies, Senator Robin Smith (LA) explained that the Religious Studies courses listed are cross-listed as HUMA courses in Philosophy and that 489 (special topics) courses are being taught and are expected to gain recognition as regular courses. He did raise the question of who would be teaching the Asian Religions course. The Speaker recognized Dr. Dudley Poston (SOCI) who indicated Dr. Sean Longstreet (PHIL) will be the instructor. All items were approved unanimously.

**In regard to the removal of CPSC 221, 222, and 411 from the consent agenda**, Senator Hobbs explained that the courses matched courses already taught by the Department of Mathematics. Senator Walker (ENG) presented the following motion detailing a resolution that had been agreed to by the respective Department Heads:

1. The request for CPSC 222 has been deleted.
2. The co-required course for CPSC will be Math 302.
3. The prerequisite for CPSC will be Math 302.

The motion was seconded by Senator Vogel (COS) and following distribution of corrected curriculum incorporating these changes with agreements from both department heads, the motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**  
There was no old business.

**New Business**  
Per a request from Senator Strawser, the Speaker called the Senate, with staff, into Executive Session to consider a matter private to the Senate.
Committee of the Whole

1. Senator McGeachin (LIBR) who is Chair of the election committee reported that it is time for reapportionment, but that a change in the bylaws needs to be made. Whereas the constitution limits the number of Senators to 100, the bylaws call for 1 Senator per 24 Faculty. Now that we have over 2,600 faculty, it would be advisable to make the by-laws simply state “the total number of faculty divided by 100 will provide the proportional representation number”.

2. Senator Carlson (GEOS) suggested the By-Laws Committee should also consider going to departmental representation, in the belief that there would be greater participation and feedback to constituents.

3. Senator Stadelmann (LA), Chair of the by-laws committee indicated these issues would be addressed in a January meeting. He also indicated the issue of term limits would be re-addressed.

4. Senator Stadelmann pointed out that the Senate appears to be being by-passed from “above and below”. He pointed out that a “Forensic Sciences” degree never considered by the Senate was reported as approved by the Board of Regents. In addition, having curricula approved with required 489 special topics courses means that the Senate is basically agreeing to accept courses that can be offered without any level of review.

5. Speaker Slack explained that his investigations showed that in fact the Board of Regents had not approved a “Forensic Sciences” degree, but to put a request before the Coordinating Board that would allow TAMU to offer such a curriculum in the future, an essential step since that authority does not currently exist. He indicated that since requests of approval to offer specific programs directly affect academic matters there could still be an issue over whether such requests should also seek prior Senate approval. Any request for initiating a degree program in Forensic Sciences must still come before the Senate.

6. Senator Hobbs voiced concern over the number of curricula reducing the number of required credits to 120 (or the lowest number accepted for SACS accreditation) and suggested that the Coordinating Board was not pressing the issue despite it being a law enacted by the legislature. Speaker-Elect Hill Price said there are a number (perhaps 7) of acceptable reasons for exceptions to the 120 credit rule that can be sought, and that word needs to get out to the faculty groups that it is possible to be granted an exception. Dean of Faculties Watson said that while the University is not pushing programs to reduce the number of credits required at the cost of quality, documentation of exceptions will be expected.

7. Senator Vogel reported that the plus/minus grading issue was being examined by a joint committee from the Faculty and Student Senates.

8. Senator Gunn announced that when he becomes a Dean, he will resign his Senate seat, and thanked the members for their support over 4 enjoyable years. Although he would
still be eligible to retain his seat as a Faculty Member, he feels resigning is the proper step.

**Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.